Maintenance of National Highways

248. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government experience hurdles in the maintenance of National Highways;

(b) whether there is a proposal to hand over National Highways to the State Governments; and

(c) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) Government does not experience any hurdle in maintenance of National Highways except for constraint of funds.

(b) and (c) The responsibility of development and maintenance of National Highways rests with the Central Government as per the National Highways Act, 1956. However, the works of development and maintenance are carried out by State Governments on agency basis on behalf of Central Government for the National Highways entrusted to them.

New universal safety fund

249. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are creating a new universal safety Fund, under the aegis of the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) on the recommendation of the empowered group on infrastructure;

(b) if so, whether it is proposed to create a separate safety reserve for all Highway projects that were to be undertaken through the new concession agreement;

(c) whether the proceeds from tolls and cess on petrol and diesel would be utilized for financing this fund; and

(d) whether existing Highway Projects on Golden Quadrilateral etc., which were in the first phase of National Highway Projects, also be covered under this fund?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIAPPA): (a) to (c) Committee on Infrastructure (COI) has endorsed the proposal for setting up a dedicated Safety Fund into which one percent of the cess revenues allocated for National Highways would be paid.

(d) Yes, Sir.

National Highways in J and K

250. SHRI T.S. BAJWA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of National Highways in Jammu and Kashmir where widening expansion and maintenance has been started form 2003 till date;

(b) the expenditure incurred and the estimated expenditure to be incurred thereon; and

(c) the details of new projects to be started in near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) to (c) the details are given the statement.

Statement

Details of works undertaken since 2003 and the new projects regarding National Highways

1. Works undertaken since 2003

Sl. No.	NH No.	Name of the Projects	Total length (kms) (Rs. in crore)	Expenditure incurred up to 31.10.2005 (Rs. in crore)	Estimated Expenditure to be incurred
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	1A	Srinagar by pass (Road Portion) from km 286.00 to km 303.80	17.80	60.72	125.00
2	1A	Pathankot-Jammu section from km 50.10 to km 80.25	30.15	7.57	151.36
3	1A	Pathankot-Jammu section from km 16.50 to 50.10	33.60	7.90	158.08